Projects have been taken up in various States to *inter-alia* improve efficiency of irrigation water use in the country. The National Water Policy (1987) also provides for better water planning and management of the country's water resources.

Free supply of Water for irrigation purposes

†589. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:
PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the States have made a demand to Government with regard to free supply of water for irrigation; if so, the number and names of such States;

(b) whether Government have taken any decision on the demand of State Governments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir. The water charges for irrigation fixed by the State Government themselves.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Settlement of Inter-State River Water Disputes

590. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the inter-State river water disputes pending for settlements;

(b) the stages at which these disputes are pending; and

(c) the details of the steps taken for the speedy settlement of these river water disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.